

Mrs. Stokes' primary profession was as an insurance agent, but she found great joy in pursuing her passion as a photographic artist, taking her on many new adventures in her adult life. Mr. and Mrs. Stokes conducted photo shoots across the United States, in Canada, and even Italy. Canada's "wild and untamed beauty" captivated Caroline, as she often expressed a desire to live in the beautiful country. The "McCutcheon Clan" in Ontario were wonderful friends to the Stokes and considered them honorary McCutcheons, sharing many years of friendship.

In addition to her knack for photography, Caroline was an avid reader, painter, and enthusiastic traveler. As a woman of faith, Caroline greatly cherished her travel to Assisi, as St. Francis of Assisi was her favorite saint. She was a music lover, enjoying a variety of genres and artists. Her family says that her music tastes ranged from Willie Nelson and Neil Diamond to opera, Pavarotti, Julio Iglesias, and Yanni as well as Soul and Polish music.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Caroline Stokes led by example, demonstrating the impact one person can make on the lives of so many by embodying the values that connect us. Caroline's devotion to her family and friends, along with her passion for travelling and the arts will continue to inspire those who knew her for a long time to come. I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Caroline Stokes.

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA THARPE
RAINES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a loving wife, dedicated mother, dotting grandmother and a woman after God's own heart, First Lady Emeritus Barbara Tharpe Raines. Sadly, First Lady Raines passed from labor to reward after a long and fruitful journey of service to humankind. A service celebrating her remarkable life will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2022 in Macon, Georgia at 12:00 p.m. at the Macon Centreplex. She leaves a legacy of service that is worthy of emulation.

Barbara Tharpe Raines was born on January 30, 1951, in Macon, Georgia to the late James Bryant and Alma Jones Tharpe. She was the oldest of six children.

First Lady Raines was a lifelong learner and was a proud product of the Bibb County School System, graduating from Ballard Hudson High School in 1968. The next stop on her educational journey was Fort Valley State College (now University), graduating in 1972 with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Education. She also received a Master's Degree in Counseling from Georgia College and State University with more study at Georgia Southern University.

Equipped with great educational tools, she embarked on a thirty-year education career, serving in multiple roles, including First Grade Teacher, Second Grade Teacher and Guidance Counselor. She retired from the Bibb

County School system with her final duty station at Burghurd Elementary School. Never one to rest on her laurels or one to stop trying to help those in need, she came out of retirement to do independent counseling for the school system, setting up independent counseling programs and serving as she did so often in her life as a mentor for new counselors. First Lady Raines was also an instructor with Hicks and Hicks Associates of Atlanta, Georgia, where she taught child development courses.

Central to her life and character was her commitment to God that she formed at an early age. An unbreakable bond was cemented with her beloved husband and life partner, the Reverend Curtis Raines as they were both founding members of the Mount Vernon Baptist Church. She and Rev. Raines were members of the church's Youth Department and played an integral role in the Church's spiritual and social development. First Lady Raines and Reverend Raines formed a true partnership as she became a deaconess and he became a deacon under the leadership of their pastor at Mount Vernon, the Reverend Dr. Henry Ficklin.

Applying the lessons that he learned at Mount Vernon, Reverend Raines began his own ministerial journey along with First Lady Raines who supported him at every turn, as a sterling example of what a First Lady should be. She served as the First Lady of New Pilgrim Baptist Church for 34 years and Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Bolingbroke for 31 years. First Lady Raines was involved with many ministries that had as their goal the development of the whole person.

When Reverend Raines became President of the General Missionary Convention of Georgia, First Lady Raines was once again a full partner with her husband serving in numerous capacities with the Convention.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged sympathetic with the striving and tolerant with the weak and strong, because someday in your life you will have been all of these."

First Lady Emeritus Barbara Raines used her life's work to help people from all walks of life. She was a member of many social and civic organizations to include the Macon Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Bibb Retired Education Association and Retired Counselors, Mentor at the Macon Youth Development Center, Rainbow Grief Counselor, Co-Team Captain of American Cancer Society, Former Member of the American Lung Association, and Cancer Relay for Life.

Because of her remarkable service to others, she has been recognized by local, state and national organizations.

Besides being one of God's Children, her greatest role in life was being a dedicated wife, loving mother and grandmother. As outlined already, she supported and served as the greatest cheerleader to her husband of almost 44 years, Rev. Curtis Raines in various endeavors. Moreover, she always supported her children and grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have known a woman with the grace, class and dignity of First Lady Emeritus Barbara Tharpe Raines. I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in extending our

deepest condolences to her family, friends and all who mourn her loss. May they be comforted by their faith, the grace of God and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER JEAN MONESTIME FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Commissioner Jean Monestime of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners for his exemplary accomplishments and commitment to the betterment of the residents of South Florida. Commissioner Monestime served as the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners during my first term as Mayor. He is a true public servant that has worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents in District 2 and our entire community.

Commissioner Monestime has been a fighter his entire career. In 2010, he became the first Haitian American to serve on the Board of County Commissioners. He has fought relentlessly to expand opportunities for others. Commissioner Monestime has a long history of advocating for equal justice and economic development throughout Miami-Dade County. He has served on numerous boards and nationally recognized organizations to make sure that the economy in South Florida works for all people and that there is equal opportunity for individuals of all backgrounds.

I have known Commissioner Monestime for a very long time, and I am proud of our work together. He has helped bring much-needed economic growth to some of the most impoverished areas of our county and has always focused his energy on the most vulnerable. I look forward to seeing how he continues his career and thank him for his years of service to the residents of Miami-Dade.

RECOGNIZING THE BRAVERY OF
SPC SOLOMON DOSS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize SPC Solomon Doss.

On the morning of August 13, 2022, while on duty as a Piedmont Police Officer, SPC Solomon J Doss received a call to respond to an active structure fire. When he arrived on the scene with his partner, they saw flames and heavy smoke coming from the house and assessed that there was no time to wait for additional help. On scene, they coordinated briefly with an off-duty officer that had already attempted to gain entry but had been forced to exit due to the severity of the smoke and fire.

Without hesitation, SPC Doss entered the structure in search of the occupant but was forced back out for clean air and to clear his lungs. He then reentered the structure in a

second attempt, during which he located the occupant of the home, an elderly woman that had become incapacitated due to smoke inhalation. SPC Doss and his partner carried her safely out of the structure shortly before it was engulfed in flames, ultimately saving the woman's life.

SPC Doss is the 2022 National Guardsman of the Year for this act of selfless bravery.

SPC Solomon Doss serves with the Alabama National Guard's 1166th Military Police Company and is from Piedmont, Alabama. During the 1166th MP Company's mobilization to Kuwait in 2020, SPC Doss served as a U.S. CENTCOM Customs Border Clearance Agent supporting Operation Spartan Shield.

Outside the National Guard, SPC Doss works as a Patrol Officer at Piedmont Police Department in Piedmont, AL.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing SPC Solomon Doss' act of selfless bravery. SPC Doss represents the best of our community, and I'm honored to recognize him.

RECOGNIZING THE EUROPEAN PRAYER BREAKFAST'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY J. PALMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Mr. PALMER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th anniversary of the European Prayer Breakfast. In honor of this milestone, I offer this brief history of the breakfast and its initial beginnings.

In 1996, Prince Nikolaus von Liechtenstein co-hosted a prayer group in his home of senior political, diplomatic, and NATO leaders of Europe, along with Sir Paul Petrie. The group met weekly in his dining room in Brussels, Belgium, for over a year in rich fellowship and mutual sharing of scripture, focused on and around, the Person of Jesus. Deep relationships between the participants in this small group were formed as a result.

At the end of a year, one of the group suggested that there were others in Brussels who would enjoy and benefit from a similar experience. As a result, an invitation to others from the same spheres of responsibility was issued to attend a Saturday breakfast.

Nearly 100 attended this by-invitation-only event in 1997. They shared their unique stories with one another and were greatly encouraged. Following the gathering, the participants were asked if they would be interested in continuing to meet. With their approval, the participants sent out initiations to 157 people, and 155 accepted.

This 1st annual European Prayer Breakfast was held in 1997. Prince Nikolaus moderated in 4 languages in French, Dutch, German, and English. Prayers were offered and scriptures read in all 4 languages. The Honorable Georgina Dufoix, then the French Minister of the Interior under President Mitterrand, shared her testimony in French, simply and powerfully.

At its conclusion, people were so moved that there was weeping among many. After closing in unison with The Lord's Prayer in 28 different languages simultaneously, no one moved. There was such a powerful presence evident among them.

When the group was later asked . . . "Would you like to do this again?" There was a universal agreement . . . Yes.

Thus began the European Prayer Breakfast of European diplomats, elected officials, military officials, and friends in Brussels, Belgium.

Sometime later Paul Petrie began to collaborate with Doug Coe, a coordinator of the U.S. National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC. Doug offered Paul the opportunity to invite European members of Parliament and others to the U.S. National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC, and so began the relationship of mutual encouragement.

As the European Prayer Breakfast continued, Paul, Prince Nikolaus and others received requests from multiple European National Parliamentarians to receive invitations to the Brussels event and they came by the dozens, then hundreds. This would bring many requests to help start similar events in National Parliaments across Europe.

In each case Paul would visit the respective country's capital and encourage the initial step to be a weekly prayer gathering for a year, in preparation for the larger event. The group would consist of like-minded followers of Jesus from political, diplomatic, and administrative roles, with an intentional effort to include opposing political parties. This smaller, weekly group who would pray, study scripture, and develop personal relationships, long before initiating a larger gathering. The inclusion of opposing political parties into a small weekly group would become a foundational principle of the prayer breakfast, in every location.

Today there are 40 smaller prayer groups across Europe who gather in the same spirit, to study and discuss the teachings of Jesus, and to pray.

It was in 2002 that, at the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC, that Paul Petrie, along with friends Dennis Coll, Bill Hightower and others, would organize the European Suite & Dinner. Here, European political leaders would come together during the week of the U.S. National Prayer Breakfast to mutually share and encourage one another. Subsequently, Paul Petrie would host the European Prayer Breakfast Leader's dinner at the Stanhope Hotel in Brussels during the week of the European Prayer Breakfast.

In 2017, Paul Petrie was knighted into the Ancient Order of St. George, by His Royal and Imperial Highness The Archduke Karel Van Hapsburg of Austria, for his "30 years of influence for the Kingdom of God upon European Royal Families, Governments, and Parliaments."

Subsequently he was granted an Honorary Doctorate from Asbury Theological Seminary for his work to extend the message of Jesus to others.

The spirit of the European Prayer Breakfast has been extended to many countries since its inception. The Israeli Knesset was one of those places. The Israeli-Christian Caucus came to visit the European Prayer Breakfast in Brussels, and subsequently made the decision, with the support of Israeli President at the time, Ruven Rivlin, to initiate the Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast in 2016, of which Paul Petrie was a Founding Member. It continues today.

It is with deep appreciation that this proclamation is offered in honor of Prince Nikolaus von Liechtenstein and Sir Paul Petrie, for their profound positive effect upon this movement

across Europe, and for their deep and abiding friendship for over a quarter of a century.

RECOGNIZING TWENTY-THREE YEARS OF SERVICE FROM ELIM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to honor a pillar within the city of Buffalo, ELIM Christian Fellowship. ELIM has had unwavering support for all of Western New York since its creation in 1999, and their congregation is now celebrating their twenty-third year of service. I would like to congratulate them on their perseverance through struggles and wish them a successful night of celebration.

Under the leadership of Senior Pastor T. Anthony Bronner, ELIM Christian Fellowship was founded as a non-denominational and bible-based ministry, inviting people of all communities. According to Senior Pastor Bronner, "The name ELIM conceptually means a place of refreshing, reviving, and renewing for weary travelers and has proven to be a fitting symbol of spiritual revitalization and restoration. It is known for its spirit-led praise, worship, and intercessory prayer. People from all races, religions, age groups, and denominational affiliations engage weekly to see God's Face."

On the Fellowship's first day of worship, over seven-hundred men, women, and children gathered at the former Buffalo Christian Center in downtown Buffalo. Many of the original members were also attendees of the Regional Morning Prayer Movement. It drew in people of all kinds from many different communities. This Regional Morning Prayer continued uninterrupted since its inception, even through the COVID-19 pandemic.

ELIM moved from the Christian Center to Turner Carroll High School in February of 2000. After only six months of occupancy, membership grew from 700 to over 1600. Due to the growth in membership at ELIM, in June 2000, they had the opportunity to purchase a property across from The Central Park Plaza for a new Worship and Youth Center.

When the Center opened in August 2000, more than 700 members, several communities, and political leaders attended the trail-blazing ceremony. In that same year, ELIM members and visitors had the opportunity to meet with First Lady, Hillary R. Clinton, and hear her words of encouragement.

Also, under the leadership of Senior Pastor T. Anthony Bronner, ELIM Christian Fellowship, created a chapter in Rochester, NY in November 2002. The expansion was a major evolution for the Fellowship and expanded the tightly knit community. The expansion also demonstrated an expansion in its mission and who that mission can reach. With the evolution in leadership, ELIM saw a large increase in permanent members due to holding worship at an unconventional time in the afternoon. In September 2004, ELIM finally officially obtained a worship center in the heart of Rochester, cementing their welcomed expansion.

Then on April 30, 2006, ELIM had the privilege of opening a new worship center with a